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# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Indochina

DATE DISTR. 30 AUG 51

SUBJECT Organization of the 234 Intelligence Battalion,  
Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. The 234 Battalion, an intelligence unit of the 2nd Bureau of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) High Command, was organized in mid-October 1950 by a special delegate of the General Staff, Le Linh, aka Le Thanh Bao. The battalion is composed of 70 intelligence agents, recruited by regional cells of the Communist Party of Indochina (PCI), 80 percent of whom are agricultural workers and 70 percent of whom are PCI members.
2. The 234 Battalion is currently assigned to the Tran Hung Dao (Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen) Front. In preparation for the Tran Hung Dao front, the DRV High Command assigned Le Ninh and Le Tien as Provincial Commissars and Du Cao<sup>1</sup> as a special delegate of the General Staff in the area. In late February 1951 Le Ninh was replaced as Provincial Commissar by Nguyen Ky, aka Nguyen Tien Hung, Commander of the battalion.
3. Battalion headquarters is currently at Ap Cau Vong, Nam Ly hamlet, Ky Son canton, Da Phuc (105-52, 21-20), northeast of Phuc Yen. The command staff of the battalion includes the following sections:
  - a. Organization. Nguyen Van Bang and Nguyen Van Thanh, section chiefs permanently attached to the battalion command staff, are responsible for over-all coordination of the activities of the battalion cells and for liaison with other intelligence battalions.
  - b. Research. Tran Dinh Le is in charge of evaluating information provided by the district cells and formulating operational plans. He reports to the central organization every two days; priority information is radioed twice daily. Le Con is the Secretary-typist.The Map and Plans section of the Research section is headed by Le Van and Duong Cong Dung.
- c. Administration and Correspondence. This section, composed of 20 men, is responsible for the distribution of supplies to the battalion units. Reports on their activities are sent to DRV military headquarters every other day. Couriers are sent via Route Coloniale No. 3 to a liaison post at Quan Trieu, Thai Nguyen, where the messages are further transmitted. The section is also

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- 2 -

responsible for transmitting DRV directives to posts under the battalion's jurisdiction. Important news is radioed, but liaison is usually effected by foot or bicycle.

Personnel of this section include the following:

Administrator	Pho Van Nga
Secretary	Nguyen Van Nghi
Liaison	Nguyen Van Chich
Chief of the Liaison Post	Nguyen Van Cuong
Messengers	Nguyen Van Lan Nguyen Xuan Vinh
Messenger for the Battalion Commander	Nguyen Huu Tich

4. The 234 Battalion has established cells in the following places:

Phuc Thang

Chief	Do Dac Tuoc
Agents	Nguyen Van Nghinh Nguyen Van Phep Nguyen Van Duyet Nguyen Van Ngo

Phu Lo

Chief	Doan Van Le
Agents	Nguyen Van Huu Tran Van Phu Nguyen Van Luc

Tan Dan

Chief	Do Van Tien
Agents	Pham Van De Nguyen Van Thuoc

This cell also receives information from a mason and a servant working at the Kim Anh post, one of whom is married to a French National Guard sergeant at Cau Kay, and the other to a Senegalese at Kim Anh.

Than Lan

Chief	Tran Ngoc Danh
Agents	Duong Van Nhung Tran Van Lai

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- 3 -

Gao Phong

Chief            Nguyen Van Vo  
Agent            Tran Van Duc

Information is also received from Ong Tong, a mason who works daily at the French post at Gao Phong.

Nui Doi (106-40, 20-45)

Chief            Nguyen Van Lun  
Agents            Nguyen Dinh Suu  
                  Nguyen Van Bai  
                  Nguyen Van Binh

Me Linh

Chief            Nguyen Van Bon  
Agents            Danh Duc The  
                  Pham Van Cuc  
                  Nguyen Van Bay

Lien Minh

Chief            Nguyen Van Phon  
Agents            Nguyen Van Buom  
                  Nguyen Van Hanh  
                  Pham Van Lam  
                  Vu Quang Thanh

Dong Anh

Chief            Nguyen Van Thanh  
Deputy Chief    Nguyen Van Hoi  
Agents            Nguyen Van Tai  
                  Nguyen Van Che  
                  Nguyen Quang Thac  
                  Nguyen Van Hat  
                  Ha Dinh Mat  
                  Le Van Hai  
                  Le Van Duong  
                  Tran Van Sau

5. The 234 Battalion maintains liaison with the following additional DRV intelligence units in the area:

- a. The 566 Battalion, north of Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen
- b. The 456 Battalion, in the Bac Ninh area
- c. The No. 4 Security Station, under Nguyen Kim Tien

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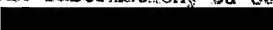
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c. Intelligence units in the four districts south of Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen: Dong Anh, under Tran Quang Thai; Da Phuc, under Le Toan; Yen Lang, under Ho Duc Thu; Kim Anh, under Le Gian.

6. The efficiency of the 234 Battalion is handicapped by Nguyen Ky's lack of intelligence experience and lack of money and weapons. Following the Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen offensive, however, it was rated third in efficiency next to the Bac Giang intelligence unit and the 456 Battalion.

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1.  Comment. According to available information, Du Cao was formerly commander of the 456 Battalion. 

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